



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

porting their eggs and young ones, in all stages of growth, from one hole to another, running rapidly with the tender, maggot-like looking things, to prevent them, as I thought, from being injured by the sun, which was hot for the season. Others, again, who were not carrying the young, would dash up behind the nearest queen, and, in a playful manner, seize her by the extreme tips of her folded white wings with his calliper-like mandibles, raise her from the ground, and rush headlong into the nearest hole with her. The queens did not seem to relish this piece of rudeness, but they submitted to it with good grace, and soon came frisking back to their lovers again. I saw hundreds of them carried forcibly into their holes, in the same playful style, by the workers, who, not unfrequently, snatched them rudely from the embrace of the males. The males or drones of the erratic ant, unlike most of the other species, have no wings; on which account it becomes necessary for the queens to receive their embraces previous to taking their flight, which they all do instantly, after they are satisfied with their lovers.

The queens or mother ants of this species are not more than half the size of the workers and nurses of the cities to which she belongs. She is not so large as a small flea, and yet she takes her aerial voyage alone, and, if the wind is strong, she may continue her flight many miles. When she descends to earth again, she immediately cuts off her wings, which are no longer useful, and goes to work to establish a new city.

Just think of the great powers possessed by this small, almost microscopic insect. Let us recount some of her known attributes. Poised on her tiny white wings, all alone, and charged as she is, in embryo, with myriad nations and kingdoms of her species, destined to flourish and perform their parts on the future life stage, in the grand conflict for subsistence, confidently commits herself to the swift winds, and, while in search of her new home, she continues her aerial flight, perhaps, for hundreds of miles. She lights at last, however, and, cutting away her wings, which are no longer necessary, commences the work of excavating and preparing cells and apartments for the coming generations. And now, supposing it to be true, that this is the only ant of that species on the face of the globe, such is her wonderful prolific powers, that it would require but very few short years for her to reproduce, and fill our yards, and paths, and hearths, and sugar barrels, as thickly with the countless millions as we now find them.

The deaths were announced of the following members: Mr. Augustus Fiot, of Bethlehem, April 5th, and Mr. Robert E. Griffith, and Col. Robert Carr, Correspondent.

April 17th.

MR. VAUX, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Twenty-six members present.

The deaths were announced of the following members: Mr. John P. Crozer, March 11th, and Mr. Roland E. Evans, April 14th.

April 24th.

MR. VAUX, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Thirty-one members present.

The following gentlemen were elected Members: Mr. John B. Parker, Joseph Thomas, M. D., Mr. Josiah Hoopes, Mr. Charles [April,

S. Lewis, Mr. Tryon Reakirt, Mr. Edward K. Tryon, Jr., Rev. George D. Boardman, Lemuel J. Deal, M. D., R. L. Webber, M. D., U. S. N., Mr. Samuel R. Shipley, Mr. William Sellers, and Mr. Joseph Walton.

The following were elected Correspondents: Prof. Alfred DuBois, Colorado, Mr. Jacob Stauffer, Lancaster, Pa., and Dr. J. H. Baxter, U. S. A.

May 1st.

MR. CASSIN, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Twenty-five members present.

The following was presented for publication:

"Notes on some members of the Feldspar Family." By Isaac Lea.

May 8th.

The President, DR. ISAAC HAYS, in the Chair.

Twenty-four members present.

Dr. Ruschenberger stated, in relation to the fossil fish-scales presented this evening, that Col. James Greer, of Dayton, Ohio, had found them, March 19, 1866, with the bones of the head, ribs, vertebræ, &c., of the fish, about two miles north of Vicksburg, Miss., on the river side of Fort Hill, about two hundred feet above high-water mark, in the escarpment of a narrow road-way, imbedded in the solid earth in a direction from north-west to south east, four feet beneath the top of the bank or surface. Dr. Leidy supposes these scales to be identical with those of an existing species of the Mississippi.

May 15th.

MR. VAUX, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Thirty-one members present.

The following were presented for publication:

"On the Structure and Distribution of the Genera of the Arciferous Anura," and "Fourth Contribution to the Herpetology of Tropical America." By E. D. Cope.

"Description of five new species of Unio," and "Description of two new species of Lithasia." By Isaac Lea.

"Observations on the Cranial Forms of the North American Indians." By J. Aitken Meigs, M. D.

Mr. Benjamin Smith Lyman observed: I have the honor of presenting to the Academy a fine Slickenside in the carboniferous conglomerate, found at Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. The Slickenside covers a surface of irregular shape, eight inches and a half long in the longest part and sixteen inches wide; and is very smoothly and straightly grooved, evidently by the rubbing of one portion of the rock upon the other. It has struck me as interesting chiefly on account of its giving a perfectly satisfactory explanation of what have been sometimes taken for fossil calamites that had impressed themselves upon the quartz pebbles of the conglomerate so as to flatten and groove them. Such impressions were mentioned by Professor Jehu Brainerd of Cleveland, 1866.]